

NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Former Singer Company Site 225 Pumpkintown Highway, Pickens, South Carolina

DHEC (the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) is accepting public comments on a proposed Voluntary Cleanup Contract through January 20, 2018.

The Voluntary Cleanup Contract, 17-5130-NRP, will affect approximately 95.3 acres located at 225 Pumpkintown Highway, Pickens, South Carolina. The property is further identified by Pickens County Tax Map Serial Number 4181-12-97-9113. The County of Anderson (Anderson) wants to acquire the property from the current owner. This Voluntary Cleanup Contract will be between DHEC and Anderson County.

A wood yard and saw mill operated on the property in the 1940s. In the 1950's, a manufacturing facility for manufacture of sewing machine parts and power tools was built. Several expansions to the facility occurred until the manufacturing facility closed in 2016. Waste materials from former manufacturing operations have been buried on portions of the property. The past manufacturing operations have resulted in environmental contamination on the property. The former owner of the property is working with the Department under a separate contract to clean up the contamination.

Anderson County plans to use the property as a "soft landing" facility for industry, warehouse use, and potential use in conjunction with Tri-county Technical College. If this Voluntary Cleanup Contract is implemented, DHEC will allow Anderson County to acquire the property as a "Brownfields Site" because of environmental pollution from past activities on the property. DHEC uses Voluntary Cleanup Contracts to encourage productive reuse of Brownfield sites.

DHEC will not hold Anderson County responsible for pre-existing pollution on the property in exchange for doing work under a Voluntary Cleanup Contract. Under the proposed contract, Anderson County will test soil, groundwater and soil gas on the property. If significant contamination is found, Anderson County will be required to take steps to protect human health and the environment. Anderson County did not create the pollution, but will control it to keep the property safe for re-use. Under State law, Anderson County will not be responsible if anyone has been affected by the contamination. The responsibility of former owners or operators of the property is not reduced by this contract.

The proposed contract is available at http://www.scdhec.gov/PublicNotices/. Printed copies may be obtained from the DHEC Freedom of Information Office at (803) 898-3882.

The public may provide written, email, or telephone comments on the proposed contract through January 20, 2018. Questions or comments may be directed to Angela Gorman, Project Manager, by e-mail at gormanak@dhec.sc.gov, telephone (803) 898-0929, or TOLL-FREE telephone (866) 576-3432. Written comments should be directed to Angela Gorman at SCDHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.